

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 10:51 PM
Subject: Parks, Community & Customer Services Speaker Registration/Testimony

P11, Bill 9

~~Speaker Registration~~/Testimony

All fields marked "(*)" are required and must be completed in order for this form to be valid.

Note: Registrations are not accepted prior to the agendas being posted.

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Meeting Date (*) 2016-01-27

Council/PH
Committee (*) Parks

Agenda Item (*) Bill 9

Your position on
the matter (*) Support

Representing (*) Organization

Organization Ulu A'e Learning Center

Do you wish to
speak at the
hearing? (*) No

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Written Testimony

At the top of Kapolei Regional Park, in the eastern corner, is an often overlooked and unknown treasure. Here amongst the plains of grass and swaying palm trees is a place deeply rooted in Hawaii's history and culture. This special place is Pu'u 'o Kapolei. Very few people know of this special place. Many have visited it on their way to soccer practice or to an event at the park. Few, however, know that long ago, Hawaiians gathered here for special occasions and found great value in its location for observing the sky and celebrating celestial events. More importantly, though, many do not know that it is here that Kapolei existed a long, long time ago. In old Hawai'i, the place known as Kapolei was not the large land area we know it as today. Rather, it was this hill, and this hill only that was known as Kapolei. Every year, at the beginning of the school year, I ask my students at Kapolei High School to tell me where Kapolei was located fifty years ago. And every year not one student can answer correctly. No one can place Kapolei near the archery range and skate park that they've frequented many times before. It's unfortunate that our youth do not know this. It's unfortunate that they do not know that this place, Pu'u 'o Kapolei, is our identity and is what makes us unique as a community. And it is more unfortunate that this unique and

historically significant place, over the past eight years, has experienced severe bouts of homelessness and drug activity, including escalating vandalism, mounting litter and poor water irrigation. I support Bill 9 because it will make the unaware community, aware. It will make the uninformed, informed. And most importantly, it will bring honor to the places that have for centuries, been highly respect by those who lived here before us – who were, by the way, a highly efficient, self-sustaining and intelligent people. By doing this, I believe we will eliminate the vandals and vagrants who mistreat these places. And we will all live in a better, more clean and enlightened Hawai‘i.

**Testimony
Attachment**

**Accept Terms and
Conditions (*)** 1